

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-6 are now pending. Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The allowable limitations of dependent claim 1 have been incorporated into an amended claim 2 and claim 1 has been canceled. The dependencies of dependent claims 3-6 have been revised accordingly.

Claims 1 and 3-6 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as bearing anticipated by Muschelknautz et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. However to advance prosecution, claim 1 has been canceled and claim 2 has been presented in independent form with claims 3-6 depending therefrom. Therefore, the Examiner's rejection has been mooted.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:



Michelle N. Lester
Reg. No. 32,331

MNL:slj
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100